



Arlington Open Space & Recreation Plan Update

COMMUNITY FORUM

December 8, 2021

WELCOME!

Arlington's Great Meadows
Photo credit: Harvey Cote





Agenda

- Overview of Arlington's OSRP
- What We've Heard So Far
- Small Groups: Goals & Objectives
- Report Out
- Next Steps

Waldo Park



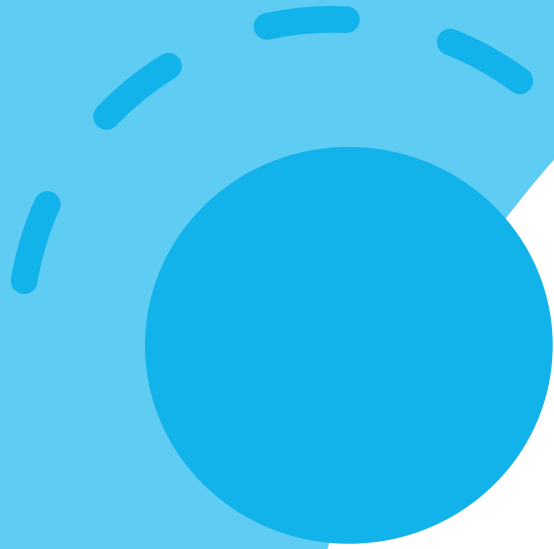
Town of Arlington

**OPEN SPACE AND
RECREATION PLAN** 2015-2022



Arlington's OSRP

- Open Space Committee prepares and monitors OSRP
 - Current plan approved 2015-2022
- 



Overview of the OSRP

What is “open space”?

Public and private land that is undeveloped for...

- Public access to nature (e.g. walking trails)
- Protecting water quality
- Protecting habitat (e.g. wetlands, threatened species, etc.)

Menotomy Rocks Park
Photo credit: Dederot



What is recreation?

Indoor and outdoor facilities

- Parks
- Playgrounds
- Multi-use fields
- Basketball courts
- Ballfields

Florence Ave Playground

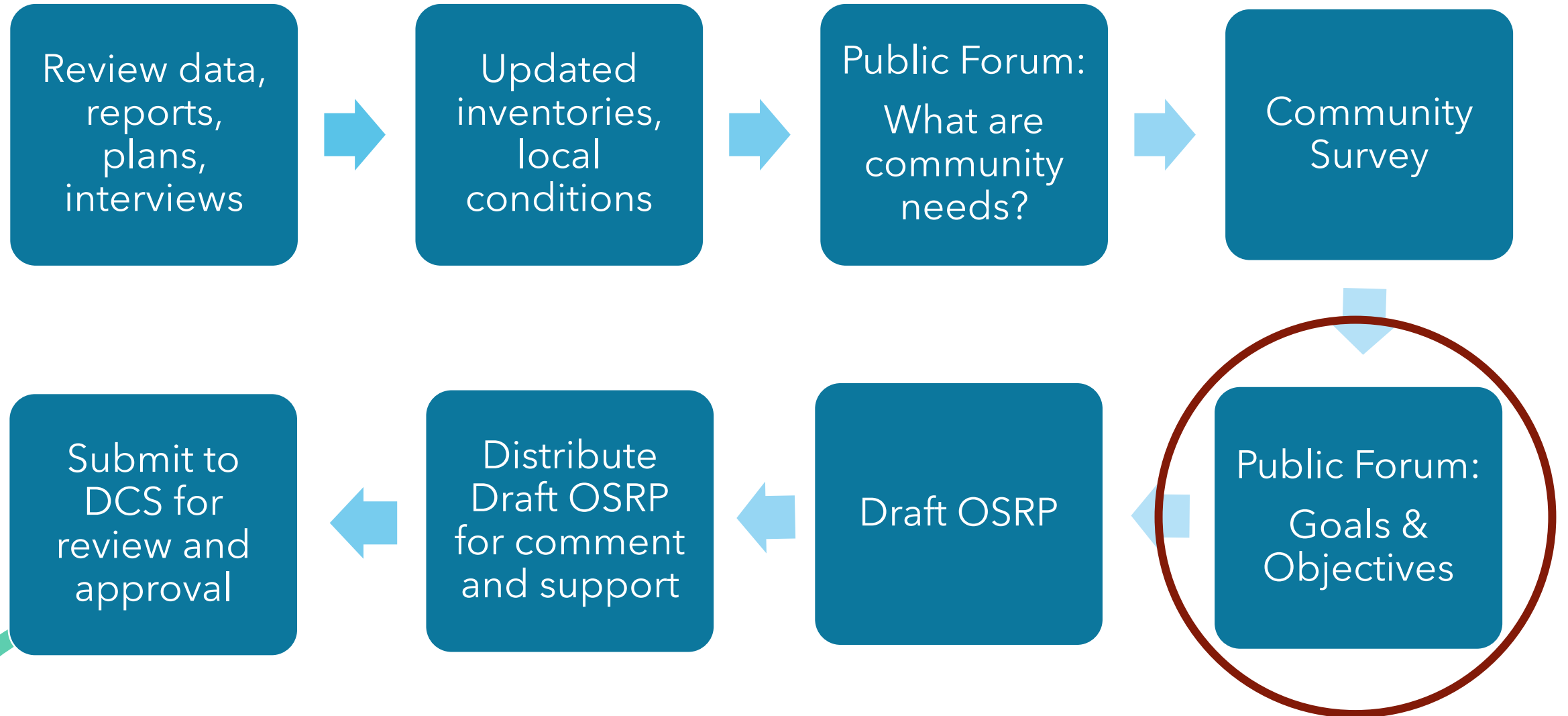


Why do we need an OSRP?

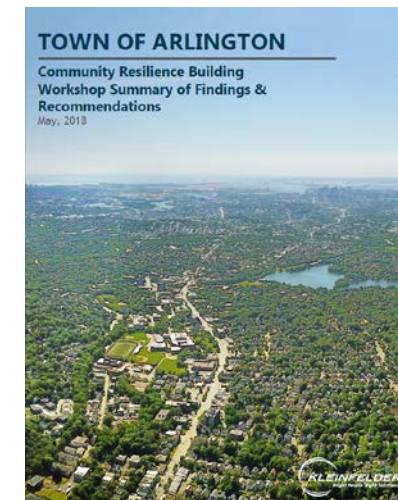
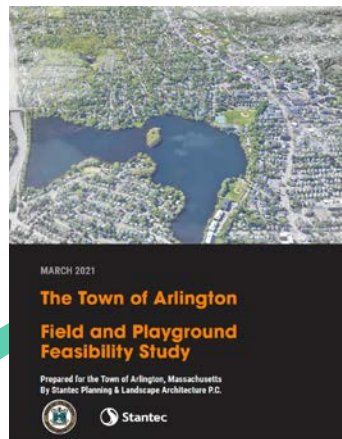
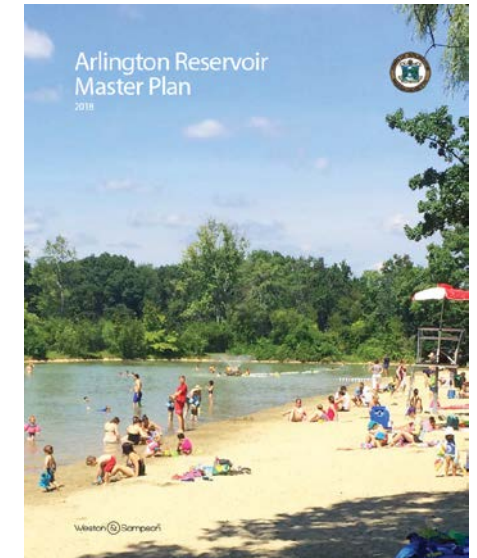
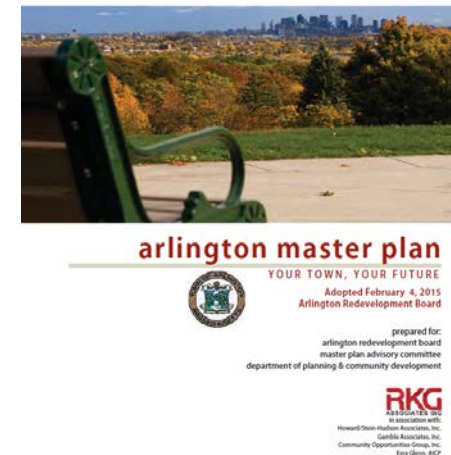
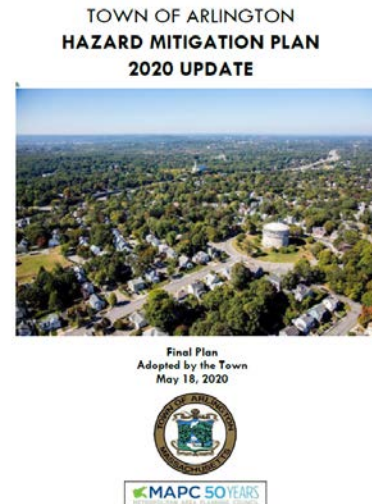
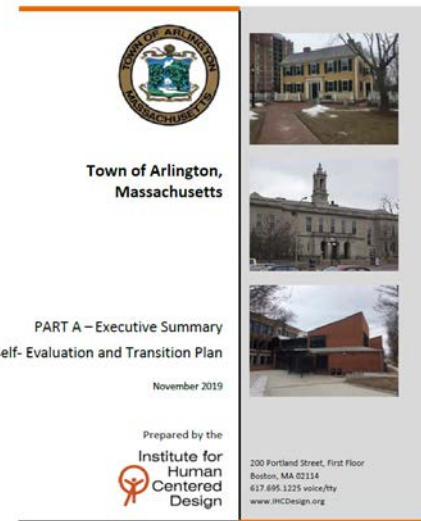
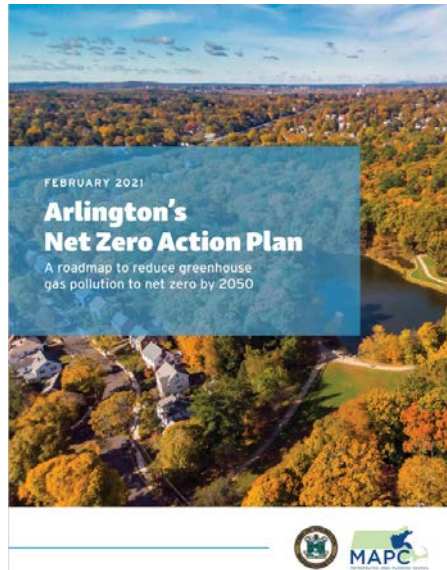
-> Maintain and enhance benefits of resources
-> Guide policy decisions for open space, natural resources, and recreational issues
-> Support efforts to acquire funding



Update Process & Milestones



Plans, Reports & Studies Informing the Update



Arlington Tree Management Plan



Based on August 2017 Town Tree Inventory

June 2018

Prepared by:

The Arlington Tree Committee

Mary Ellen Aronson, Co-Chair
Eliza Burden, Co-Chair
Mara Vatz
John Ellis
Steven Moore
Susan Simons
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Department of Public Works

Tim Lervette, Tree Warden
Michael Rademacher, Director of Public Works

Funded by:

The Department of Conservation and Recreation, Urban and Forestry Challenge Grant



What's in the OSRP?

11 Required Sections

- Community Snapshot
- Resource Inventories
- Needs

*Natural Resource
Protection*

*Community
Management*

- Goals and Objectives
- Action Plan

What We Heard

Natural Resource Protection

- Water quality and access
- Public trees and forested areas
- Wildlife habitat and corridors



Wellington Park

Photo credit: David Mussina, Mystic River Watershed Association

What We Heard

Community Needs

- Safe walking and biking connections
- New resources, amenities, opportunities
- Environmental justice and equity

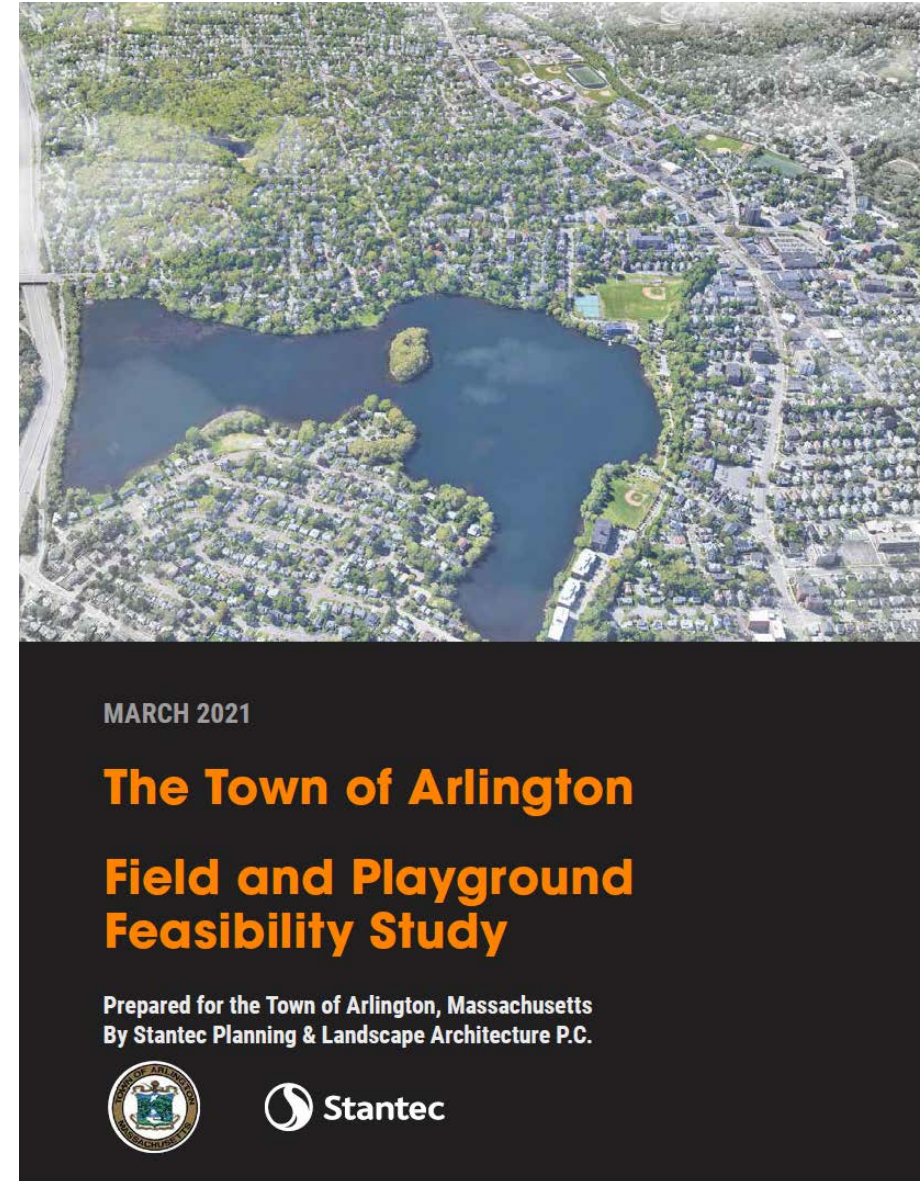


Thompson/Lussiano Playground

What We Heard

Management Needs

- Improvements, upgrades, and maintenance
- Balancing development/redevelopment with protecting/enhancing natural resources
- Climate change and natural hazards



A stylized sun graphic on the left side of the slide. It features a solid blue circle at the bottom left, with several blue curved lines of varying lengths radiating from it towards the top left. A large white semi-circle is positioned on the right side of the slide, partially overlapping the blue background.

Tonight's Discussion

Review 2015 OSRP Goals



1

Conservation and Preservation


Goal 1. Acquire ecologically valuable undeveloped lands or ensure their protection through conservation restrictions or other means.



2

**Maintenance
and
Enhancement**

Goal 2. Preserve, maintain, and enhance existing open spaces, including watersheds, water bodies, and natural areas; parks, playgrounds, and outdoor recreational facilities; and historic sites and cultural landscapes.






3

**Local and Regional
Coordination and
Communication**

Goal 3. Coordinate and strengthen local and regional planning and management of open spaces in conjunction with various Town departments, commissions, and volunteer groups; and work closely with nearby towns and regional entities and with state and federal officials and agencies.





4

**Public Awareness
and Access**

Goal 4. Increase public awareness, accessibility, and community stewardship of the Town's open spaces and recreational facilities.






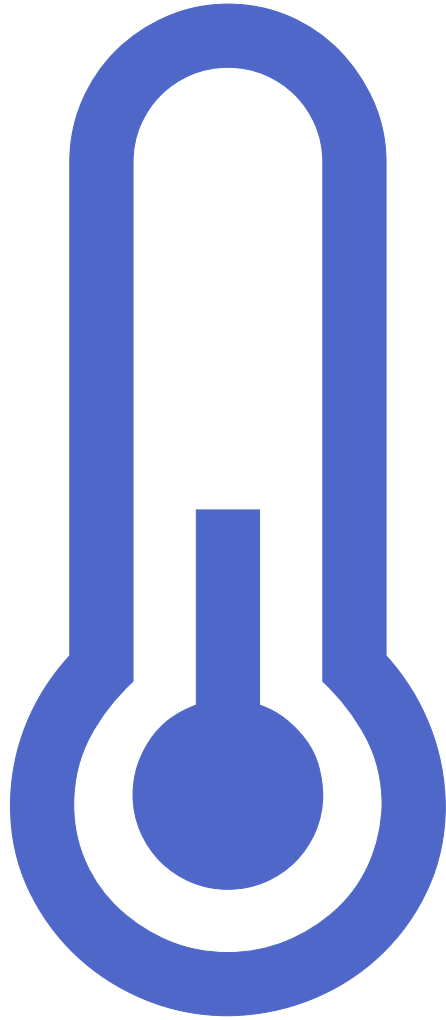


5

**Sustainability
and Resilience**

Goal 5. Use environmentally sustainable planning and engineering approaches for climate change and natural resources management.





Temperature Check ...

Are these goals still relevant?



Virtual Breakout Rooms

1. Is this goal still important? What key issues and needs will it address?
2. What are some principles or objectives to help guide Town actions to meet this goal? How can we address EJ and equity?
3. Are there priority actions under this goal?
4. What goals or themes are missing?

Ground Rules

- Be kind and respectful
- Be concise
- Be open to new ideas
- Be patient with technology
- Have fun!





Thank you!

**Send your ideas/comments to:
OSRPUpdate@town.arlington.ma.us**

**Check for the latest happenings:
www.arlington.ma.gov/openspace**